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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**Town of Dartmouth Advisory of Dead Birds Found Along Massachusetts
Coastline**

Residents urged to take precautions by not touching sick, injured or deceased birds
June 23, 2022

Recent reports over the last week of dead and dying birds have been increasing in parts of the Northeast including Massachusetts. Most of the deceased birds being reported are cormorants, however, other seabirds and waterfowl have been noted such as seagulls and eider ducks.

No diagnosis of the cause of death has been established as of the early morning of June 23, 2022, however out of an abundance of caution the public is being urged to avoid touching dead and sick birds. Additionally, the public is being asked by State officials to report dead or sick, injured or dying birds along the coast by filing reports online at:

mass.gov/reportbirds

The State website will ask for details on the observation including date of observation, bird species, number of dead birds observed, number of sick birds observed, symptoms observed and pictures. Prompt and detailed reports will allow for State and Federal agencies to respond as needed and seek diagnosis.

The public is asked to also report sick or deceased domestic birds such as poultry or other domestic fowl by calling the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Division of Animal Health at 617-626-1795.

As a customary reminder, we are asking people to refrain from feeding waterfowl to discourage the higher population densities at feeding sites.

Further updates will be provided when more information is received from State or Federal officials on the cause of the increased mortality in seabirds.